

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF DEFENSE MOBILIZATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DOD & FEMA review(s)

50-3081

Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

The Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee, which advises me in the performance of those aspects of my telecommunications functions relating to the management, allocation, assignment, and usage of radio frequencies by the U.S. Government, established a Select Subcommittee on Frequency Allocations to deal with the frequency allocation aspects of radio frequency management.

This subcommittee has now determined that the greatest need and urgency for corrective measures and advanced planning seem to exist in the upper frequency regions of the spectrum in bands already becoming congested with a large variety of radar uses by many different operating agencies. The subcommittee is concentrating initially on the band 2700-3500 Mc where the situation is particularly acute. From preliminary investigations it has been discovered that much of the present difficulty results from numerous different types of radar having been concentrated in certain areas of that band whereas other portions are relatively unused. Probably this is because the considerable pressure to produce urgently needed radar equipments has resulted in most of them being designed around basic frequency generating elements of other already existing and proven equipments. In some geographical areas this has resulted in severe mutual interference which has rendered simultaneous operation difficult or impossible. It appears doubtful that some adjustment of existing operations in this band can be avoided. In other bands it may not be too late to work out a suballocation so that intermixing of incompatible types of operation can be prevented through advance planning. Current plans for an accelerated program for equipping the federal airways with more advanced types of electronic aids to air navigation and traffic control over the next five years, taken in conjunction with the expanding needs of the military services for new electronic devices, point up the urgent need for a solution to this problem.

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I therefore believe it would be in the best national interest for each department and agency of the Federal Government which is responsible for the design and development of electronic equipments to take positive steps to insure hereafter the closest possible coordination between the research and development people, on the one hand, and those responsible for radio spectrum management, on the other, in order that the necessary advance coordination, both within each department and agency, as well as among them, can be effected to the end that all equipments which must occupy the radio spectrum can be used to their maximum potential effectiveness.

We will appreciate any suggestions that you might have for relieving the present acute situation and anything that you may be able to do to ensure that future developments of electronic equipments are compatible with other uses of the radio frequency spectrum. Your views on the foregoing will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur S. Fleming
Director

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